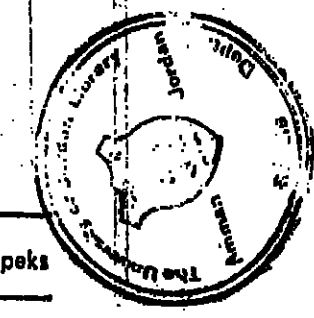
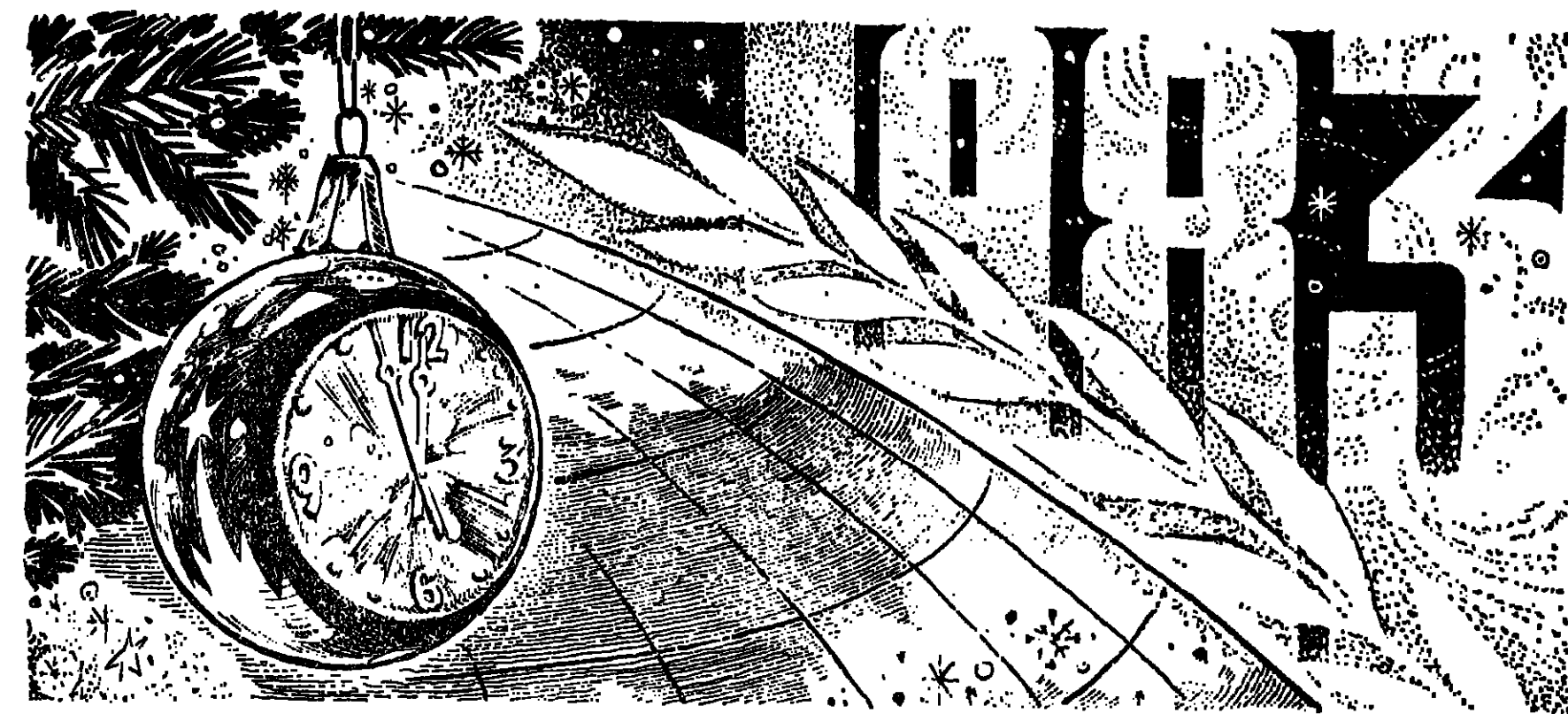


A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



No. 1 (416), JANUARY 1-3, 1983

Price 5 kopeks



Drawing by Igor Smirnov

NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO THE SOVIET PEOPLE

The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR have sent a message of greetings to the Soviet people, which says in part the following.

1982 is drawing to an end. For the Soviet people it was a year of creative work to fulfill the history-making decisions of the 26th Congress of the CPSU.

It was the year the Soviet people celebrated the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The anniversary was a vivid and impressive demonstration of the great achievements of socialism, of the triumph of the Leninist national policy and the indelible friendship and brotherhood of all the peoples of the USSR.

The Soviet country attained its present prosperity and power under the wise leadership of the Party of Communists. The CPSU firmly and steadfastly follows the tested Leninist path. The unanimous support for the internal and foreign policy of the Party and the selfless loyalty of the Soviet people to the ideas of Communism was proved convincingly during the days of parting with Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev.

The Communist Party holds dear and sacred the limitless trust of the working people. It sees the highest purpose of its activities as serving the people, the cause of communism and peace. The unflinching unity of Party and people provides the guarantee for further successes of our socialist Motherland.

The outgoing year was not a simple one for the Soviet people. But a lot was done. The national economy developed on a consistent basis. Hundreds of industrial enterprises went into operation. New giant gas pipelines and high-voltage power lines were built. The implementation of the USSR Food Programme is under way. Soviet science has new achievements to its credit. Measures to raise the material well-being and the cultural level of the Soviet people, as approved by the 26th Congress of the CPSU, are being carried out. About 10 million people have improved their housing conditions.

The decisions taken at the November 1982 Plenary Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and at the Seventh Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR were adopted by the Soviet people as a militant action programme for the implementation of the tasks of the five-year plan. We are faced by important tasks requiring intensive work, high organizational standards and conscientious discipline from every Soviet man and woman. We are up to those tasks.

The Central Committee of the CPSU, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR voice their confidence that workers, collective farmers, intellectuals and all the Soviet people will mark 1983 with new glorious deeds and will further ensure the successful advancement of this country along the Leninist path.

Honour and glory to all whose honest and selfless labour strengthens the economy and defence of the Soviet Union, advances

(Continued on page 2)

YURI ANDROPOV: NO TASK IS MORE URGENT THAN TO REDUCE THE GROWING THREAT OF NUCLEAR WAR

This was stressed by Yuri Andropov, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in an interview he gave to the American political observer Joseph Kingsbury Smith, which we print below.

Q: What would you like to wish the American people for the New Year?
A: First of all, I would like to congratulate them on the New Year and to send my best wishes for well-being and happiness to

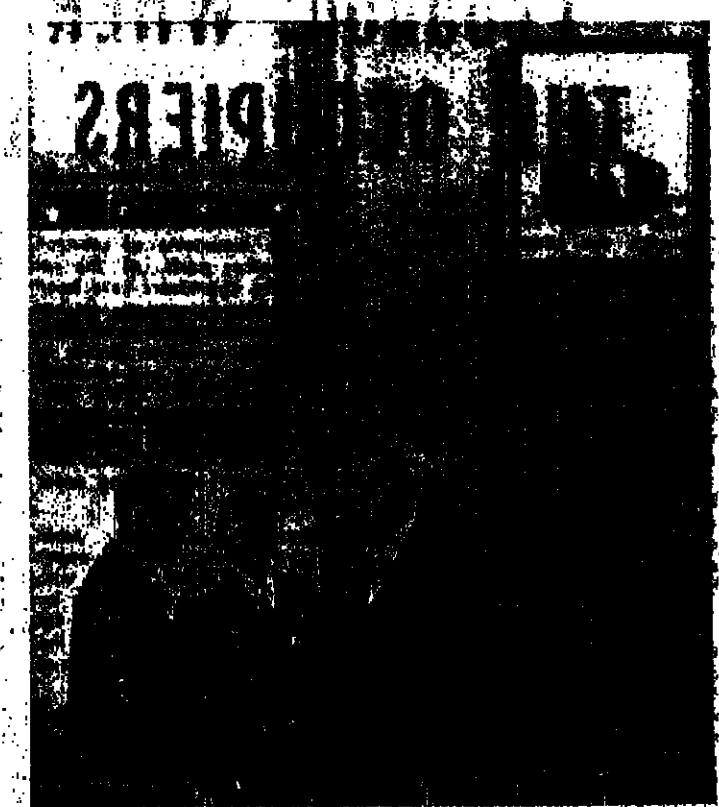
every American family. This means, first and foremost, the wish that all Americans live in peace, may enjoy lasting peace and prosperity, the fruit of peaceful work and of beneficial co-

(Continued on page 3)

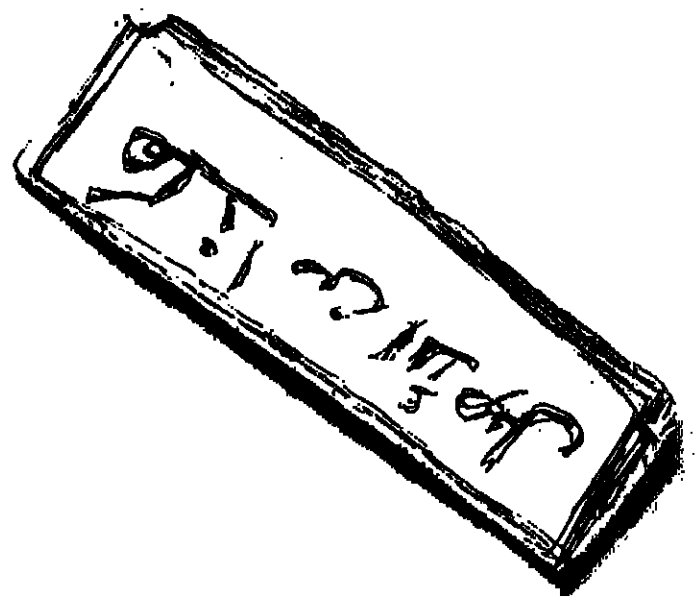
HIGH AWARDS FOR SOVIET SPACE EXPLORERS

Anatoly Bereznov and Valentin Lebedev, who made record endurance space flight of 211 days aboard the Salyut-7 space station, have returned from the Baikonur space centre to the Brezhnev Star township. Yuri Andropov met the two cosmonauts in Moscow. They told him about their mission and about the research and experiments they had conducted aboard the complex.

Yuri Andropov warmly congratulated the two men on their successful flight and on being given the country's highest awards. He also wished them a happy New Year and further successes in space exploration for the benefit of the Soviet people.



Yuri Andropov meets the cosmonauts.



NEW YEAR GREETINGS
TO THE SOVIET PEOPLE

(Continued from page 1)

science and culture and contributes towards the further well-being of our great Motherland.

The international situation during the past year was complex. Aggressive imperialist circles continued their attempts to subvert the policy of détente, to push states and peoples onto a path of enmity and military antagonism. Under these conditions we firmly declare yet once again our striving for peace is unflinching. The Soviet Union consistently defends its interests and the interests of our allies and friends.

Being loyal to the peaceful principles and aims of our foreign policy, our country perseveres in its fight against the threat of nuclear war, and stands for the curbing of the arms race. With us are the fraternal countries of socialism and all the peace-loving forces of the planet. The USSR will always be ready for equitable cooperation with any state. We are convinced that the present day difficulties and tensions in the international situation could and should be overcome.

At the same time, we shall exercise utmost vigilance. Those who indulge in military adventures should know that the inviolability of our borders and the borders of our allies has been reliably secured. The Soviet Armed Forces are a powerful factor for peace and security of the peoples.

Celebrating the New Year, we extend our heartfelt greetings to the working people in socialist countries. Strengthening of the socialist community will continue to be a priority with our Party and state. We send our heartfelt greetings to Communists throughout the world and to all the fighters against imperialism reaction and war, as well as to all the good friends of our country.

The Soviet people are looking forward to the future with confidence. Let the New Year bring happiness and joy to all the Soviet people and to every family.

— Our New Year greetings to the heroic working class, to collective farmers and the people's intelligentsia.

— New Year to the Party veterans, to the war veterans and the veterans of labour.

— Most cordial greetings to Soviet women, the glorious daughters of their Motherland, selfless workers and ardent patriots.

— Best wishes to our glorious youth!

— We send our warmest greetings to the brave members of the Soviet Armed Forces who vigilantly protect the peaceful work of the Soviet people.

— Our seasonal greetings to all those who are on duty on this New Year and to those who are working far from their Motherland!

A Happy New Year, Comrades, and a New Happiness!

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE
FROM PATRIARCH PIMEN

Patriarch Pimen of Moscow and All Russia has sent a Christmas and New Year message to the clergy and all the believers of the Russian Orthodox Church.

In the joy of holiday we shall all continue in the New Year, like before, to work creatively in the glory of God and to the benefit of our great and dear Fatherland, the message reads.

In our troubled nuclear age, we shall continue to contribute by all means available to the prevention of war and to the protection of peace in the name of the most precious thing on earth—human life and the great heritage of the past.

The Russian Orthodox Church celebrates Christmas on January 7 (December 25, Julian calendar).



New Year celebrations military style.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

Yuri Andropov: No task is more urgent
than to reduce the growing threat of nuclear war

(Continued from page 1)

operation with all the other peoples. The Soviet and American peoples have only one common enemy—the threat of war and everything that exacerbates it.

The Soviet Union wants peace to be preserved and strengthened and it does all it can to achieve this, being well aware that today there is no more important task in international politics than to remove the growing threat of nuclear war and to control and then stop the arms race.

I would like to wish that America make its own contribution, one that would be worthy of it as a great nation towards stronger peace and friendship among peoples, rather than indulging in spurring on the arms race or fanning up warlike sentiment.

Q: What major cooperation measures do you think could be taken between the USSR and the United States in 1983 in the interests of world peace and of an improvement in Soviet-American relations?

A: I believe that our two countries could take part in joint enterprises which could be

useful to both of them, and to other countries and peoples. For instance the mutual reduction of troops and armaments in Central Europe; cooperation in the removal of the most dangerous hotbeds of military conflict, such as in the Middle East, etc.

The most important thing of all, of course, is the achievement of just and mutually acceptable agreements in keeping with the principles of equality and equal security at the talks on limiting and reducing strategic armaments and medium range nuclear weapons in Central Europe, these agreements being supplemented by the adoption of practical steps to implement them.

Q: Do you think that through continuing negotiations the differences dividing the approach of the governments of the Soviet Union and the United States to nuclear armaments can be sufficiently reduced so as to create conditions favourable for arriving at a compromise agreement?

A: I certainly do. Objectively, there is every possibility for this, since there are solutions to the problems which are being negotiated, solutions which would

not damage the interests of either party, but lead to radical reductions in armaments by both sides to the greater benefit of universal peace and security.

That is exactly the purpose behind the Soviet proposals including those we put forward recently. I will remind you of the gist of these proposals, which is very simple and logical. We propose to put an end to the further buildup of strategic weapons by both sides, i.e., to freeze them at their present levels, and then to reduce the arsenals at the disposal of both sides by 25 per cent bringing them down to equal levels, and then to proceed further and carry out new reductions.

In nuclear weapons, we propose different measures for the zone of Europe. Either to have no such weapons there—either medium-range or tactical, belonging either to the Soviet Union or to NATO countries. This would be a "zero option", so to speak, for both sides. Or else, both sides could reduce their medium-range weapons in Europe, including missiles or aircraft carrying nuclear weapons, by more than two-thirds. In addition, the opposing Soviet and American missiles should not be there at all, while the USSR should retain as many as the disposal of Britain and France.

In aircraft, too, we are for a more complete parity at a considerably lower level than at present. This means that in the zone of Europe, we do not want to have a single missile or aircraft more than those possessed by NATO countries.

We would like to hope that the United States will respond to this just and constructive position by a show of good will. This would help ensure the success of the negotiations. Such a success, I am sure, would make 1983 a good year for the whole of mankind.

Q: Former President Richard Nixon has called for a summit meeting between you and the American President. What is your reaction to this?

A: The Soviet leaders have always regarded summit conferences as one of the most efficient methods of developing relations between states. We are of the same opinion now. But, of course, thorough preparations are necessary for such meetings to be a success. In any case, we are for improved Soviet-American relations and for the implementation of the mutually beneficial treaties and agreements concluded between our two countries, and we shall welcome everything that leads to this goal.

of the USA, who egged Israel on to commit the aggression and did its utmost to boost the escalation of the conflict. The invaders have turned Lebanon into a mammoth testing range where the latest US mass destruction weapons, including cluster, pellet, phosphorous and vacuum bombs, are used on defenceless civilians. America is still lavishing military aid on Israel, even after the entire world has condemned Israel for its monstrous crimes in Lebanon. Spurring the Zionist "hawks" on to more criminal actions, the USA said it was ready to supply Israel with nearly 1,000 million dollars' worth of various weaponry next year.

Given all this, there is little hope for Washington's "peace effort" in Lebanon. The various "normalization plans" clearly reveal the US intention to expand its military presence in Lebanon, where it now has 1,300 Marines in the multinational force there.

The Israeli aggression is offering the US new possibilities to infiltrate the region, acquiring and bolstering its positions there to force a rift on the Arab East. Washington is using its "strategic ally", Tel Aviv, to derive maximum benefits from this chance.

resolutions demanding a withdrawal from Lebanon. Israeli leaders are launching plainly unacceptable, humiliating for that sovereign nation, conditions for evacuation of their troops. Israeli Zionist leaders would like to force a separate "peace treaty" on Lebanon, specifically overlooking the creation, along the Lebanese-Israeli border, of a so-called "security zone", 45 to 50 kilometres wide. The establishment of such a zone would enable Israel to retain its military and economic control of the country's south, to continue its provocative air raids over Lebanese territory, and to use Lebanon, in the final account, as a springboard for new aggressive actions against Syria and other Arab nations.

The tragic developments in Lebanon have brought into sharper focus the uneasy role

armoured personnel vehicles and other military hardware. In the mountains of Lebanon and in other parts of the republic the aggressors have been inflicting bloody armed clashes between Lebanese religious communities in which dozens of citizens have died and hundreds were injured. Tel Aviv's provocative actions are meant to justify the need for Israeli presence in the country under the false pretext of ensuring order and restoring peace.

Lebanese president Amin Gemayel, wrote the local paper "Al-Saba", charged Israel with seeking to erode the nation by inciting communal strife. Tel Aviv, he stressed, is using the clashes as a tool of pressure and blackmail against Lebanon.

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A rebuff
to Western
dictate

Delhi. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi gave a resolute rebuff to Western attempts to try and exert pressure upon India by threats of stopping economic and financial aid. Such threats cannot intimidate our country, said the head of the Indian government, speaking in Bangalore. Today, India is 90 per cent self-sufficient, receiving only 10 per cent of required resources from abroad. But if she is refused this aid, the Indian people will work ever harder to provide all the necessary requirements for their country, stressed I. Gandhi.

The prime minister said that over the years of India's independence, it has achieved great success in the economy's development and in the solution of important social problems earning her well-deserved authority. The republic's achievements have been recognized even by those countries which were once critics of the way of the socio-economic development chosen by the Indians. Now India can tackle her tasks independently.

FACTS
and EVENTS

Q: The Council of Ministers of the Yemeni Arab Republic has decided to introduce compulsory schooling for persons aged below 45. At present, 90 per cent of the population in the country can neither read or write.

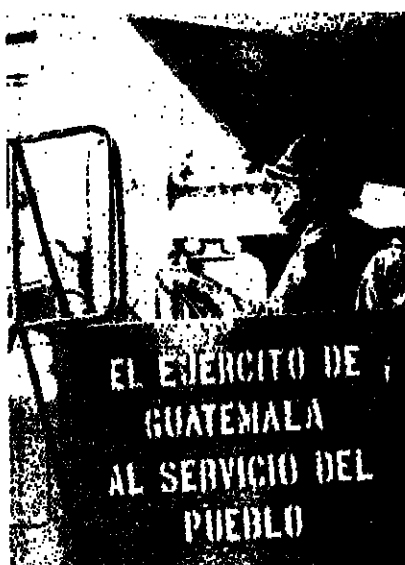
Q: The Ecuadorian daily "Ultimas Noticias" writes that during the eleven months of 1982 the Pinochet secret police arrested in Chile 1,450 adversaries of the regime of whom 16 were killed and many subjected to cruel tortures.

Q: The European Parliament in Strasbourg rejected by an overwhelming majority of votes a move to alter the community's allocations to compensate Britain for her previous 1,000-million dollar contributions.

Q: Members of a delegation representing the American anti-war Farmers for Peace organization have described as "useless" and "unsuccessful" their two-week visit to this country. The organization was set up by American cattle breeders from the Middle West. During our stay in the Soviet Union we saw that the Soviet people sincerely wish for peace, they told reporters at New York airport. All the Soviet officials and the ordinary citizens we met expressed serious concern over the race in nuclear arms, said S. Goriand from the state of Utah.

PEOPLE

Another gold award was added recently to the collection of gold medals belonging to celebrated Brazilian football player Pelé — this time the award was made for his active part in the literacy drive. Though he cannot claim to have taught a single person to read and write, Pelé still deserves the medal for his book, "I Am Pelé", attracted a virtually nationwide readership, and many began to study the ABC in order to be able to read it. The medal was presented to Pelé by the Brazilian ministry of culture and education.



In recent months thousands of innocent civilians in Guatemala, mostly in rural areas, fell victim to the bloody terror and punitive operations of government troops. Meanwhile the authorities brazenly claim they are acting on behalf of "human rights".

In the photo: the back of this military lorry carrying punitive troops bears the following hypocritical words: "The Guatemalan army in the service of the people".

From "Lang og folk"

TERROR FOR EXPORT

Washington. In 1982, Israel was the world's seventh biggest exporter of weapons, and it continues an active search for new markets. Despite the sanctions surrounding the figures concerning Israel's trade in weapons, its volume is now estimated to be far in excess of 1,000 million dollars' worth. The main part of these exports goes to countries with reactionary fascist regimes where the United States does not dare sell its own weapons fearing indignation and protests from the world community. In cases like

this, Israel comes onto the scene as representing American interests.

For a long time, Israel has been a supplier of weapons to dictatorial regimes fighting against their own people. Among its clients are Chile, South Africa, El Salvador, Paraguay, Guatemala and Honduras. "The Christian Science Monitor" has turned into an accomplice in the policies of terror and genocide pursued by the ruling regimes in these countries against their own people.

SPY ADMITS AMERICAN
INVOLVEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN

Kabul. The confessions of a spy who was on the staff of the American embassy in Kabul and also in the pay of the network in the Afghan capital have cast a new light on the dirty methods employed by the United States in waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan.

Afghan citizen Isahan who served as deputy chief of the security service at the American embassy in Kabul has exposed the activities of a group of American agents who are simultaneously members of the counterrevolutionary Djamiat-Islami grouping.

In 1978 when he was already working for the American em-

bassy, he was recruited by this grouping. He was told to distribute propaganda materials prepared in the embassy including anti-communist leaflets and posters.

In August 1981, a security officer at the American embassy, a certain Crow, hired him as his paid agent demanding that Isahan collect information on actions by counterrevolutionary gangs in various parts of the country and organize bomb attacks and acts of sabotage in the city.

Members of the American embassy staff brought in pistols, hand-grenades, and mines from Pakistan which they distributed to the Djamiat-Islami grouping.

Science and technology

RADIO KEY FOR CARS

French scientists have designed an instrument for opening car doors without a key. It consists of a miniature radio transmitter built into a key ring, and a receiver installed on the dashboard and tuned to the frequency of the transmitter. Contact is established through the car window by activating the electromagnetic locks locking the four doors.

DO YOU KNOW FISH COUGH?

Fish can cough. Perch, pike, carp, salmon, and trout react when foreign matter gets into their lungs. They cough in order to get rid of such particles. It may be not as audible as the cough of a man or an animal, yet it can still be measured.

American scientists have discovered a method for "listening" to the cough by means of highly sensitive electrodes immersed in the aquarium, which measure all movement in the water along with the fish cough which is amplified and recorded by means of special devices.

The fish cough not only when strange particles get into their lungs but also when industrial waste is dumped into the water they live in.

A SWAMP POWER STATION

An experimental power station is being built in Sweden to be operated by swamp water. As is well known such water contains a large percentage of methane that can be extracted and burnt. The station's design capacity is 500 kW.

OF INTEREST

Something

about dominoes

There is no precise information about where and when the game of dominoes first appeared. Judging by the name, it must have appeared somewhere in Italy. As to the exact dates, opinions differ. It is believed that the game was known in Ancient Rome, and some name even earlier times. It is known beyond any doubt, however, that in France, the game was first played by aristocrats in the 16th century. They used very

elaborate plaques made of ivory and rare types of wood and decked with gold and silver.

How to make
a Roman amphoraA walk in
the Solar System

Several young Swisses built a replica of the Solar System in the scale of 1:1,000,000,000 in a park not far from the town of Lausanne. The walk takes three hours from the 1.4 m high to the Pluto Planetarium located along a path made in scale to their golden ages. The path is 13 kilometres in diameter, while the very minute Moon is located just thirty-eight centimetres from it.

Italian experts specializing in detecting "forgotten" have uncovered the desire of how ancient Roman amphorae are manufactured today. The forgery is kept for at least 25 days in an alkaline solution after which its surface is covered with minute cracks to make it look as if it had just been unearthed. Such items are then sold to tourists as genuine articles. There are underground factories operating in Italy to produce "fake" antiquities. They own their property to the great demand for old things.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

ATTEMPTS DOOMED TO FAILURE

The present American president and his entourage now und again let slip the admission that the main aim of the massive military preparations they have mounted is to provoke the Soviet Union and to involve it in an arms race which will hinder it from fulfilling the economic targets it has set itself, writes Vitaly Kobyshev, in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. It is not the Soviet missiles and tanks that they fear, but the Soviet five-year programmes and plans for economic, cultural and social development.

The trouble with many American presidents lies in their belief that history does not begin until the moment they are installed in the White House. Very often they simply do not know what happened before. But they have tried to strangle the USSR by various means including military expenditure, ever since the Soviet state came into being, we have withstood all such attempts.

UNDECLARED WAR AGAINST NICARAGUA

The SELSKAYA ZHIZN newspaper writes that subversion against revolutionary Nicaragua has recently been stepped up. Every day gangs of several hundred counter-revolutionaries raid the country, from neighbouring Honduras where they are entrenched.

The internal counterrevolution has also become more active, a fact evidenced by the crushing of a whole range of planned terrorist acts in the capital and other areas by the republic's security forces. Weapons and explosives are being smuggled into the country for those nostalgic for the past and prepared for bloody crimes.

Facts prove that the subversion against Nicaragua is directed by the CIA with Washington's blessing, the paper points out. The gangs belonging to the so-called Nicaraguan democratic front, supported by the CIA, represent the biggest military organization in Central America. US Ambassadors to Honduras J. Negroponte is conducting all the subversive actions against Nicaragua.

In fact war is already on in Nicaragua, an undeclared war waged by the forces of imperialism ready to strangle the revolution whatever the price and install a subservient regime. But these sinister plans are doomed, the paper stresses, since the people of Nicaragua are determined to defend their gains.

A SLANDER CAMPAIGN

PRAVDA comments on the provocative campaign raised in the West around the alleged "connection" of some socialist countries with the attempt on the life of the Pope perpetrated in 1981 by the Turkish terrorist Aydin. The newspaper says that there are several aims behind the campaign.

Firstly, it represents an attempt to use the fear of "international terrorism" which, it is alleged, is controlled by the Communists on the way to "exported" to Western Europe, in order to divert the real terrorism carried out by the United States and its allies such as Israel and El Salvador.

Secondly, the new campaign of slander represents a large-scale provocation against Bulgaria and aims at throwing a shadow over the policy of the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union, in order to justify the involvement of Italy and other West European countries in the Pentagon "rearmament" plans.

Thirdly, the Italian authorities use the insinuations about "international terrorism" for their own domestic policy aims. The history of political provocation shows that all such slander is invariably terminated sooner or later by the complete revelation of the real aims of those who sponsored it, stresses the newspaper.

THE WEST: A SHARPER SOCIAL STRUGGLE

The past year has provided fresh confirmation of the fact that the ruling circles of capitalist countries try to overcome the crisis which has beset the capitalist world at the expense of the working people. Thus, the real wages of American workers went down by 2 to 3 per cent over the incomplete year of 1982, writes EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. On the whole real wages have decreased by over 17 per cent by comparison to the 1970s.

Unemployment has become the most acute problem facing the capitalist world. In the USA it has reached a level of 10.8 per cent, and it has hit 11.7 million people in the Common Market countries. But the official data do not reflect the real dimensions of the tragic situation in which the working people find themselves.

The monopolies attempt to make the working classes shoulder the entire burden of the crisis does not go unopposed by the latter, stresses the newspaper. According to incomplete preliminary statistics, not less than 70 million people have taken part in strikes and other mass protest manifestations in 1982, as compared to the average annual figure of 51 million in the 1970s. The class struggle is intertwined with the mass antiwar protests.

Round the Soviet Union

● THE METHOD FOR BIOLOGICAL PURIFICATION INVENTED BY ODESSA UNIVERSITY IN THE UKRAINE HAS MANY ADVANTAGES: It can be used for water polluted with oil, dyes and antibiotic production waste. There are two stages in the process. First hard particles are separated, then organic substances are decomposed by microorganisms. After processing and drying the settling sludge becomes fertilizer.

● A LARGE RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER THE KAMA RIVER HAS BEEN OPENED. It links this country's two major railways—the Gorky and the Kuznetsk lines. New plants at the Lower Kama production complex have been provided with quicker access to the Urals and Siberia.

● "SVETLOMOR" — THE FIRST ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MULTIPURPOSE CRAFT — STARTED MONITORING THE WATER AREA OF THE ILVICHYK SEAPORT, ODESSA REGION, UKRAINIAN SSR. Its primary task is to prevent the pollution of the water with oil products.

● POWERFUL EXCAVATORS, HUGE DUMP-TRUCKS AND OTHER UP-TO-DATE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT ARE USED IN COAL MINING IN NERYUNGI (THE YAKUT AUTONOMOUS SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC). Here, as it was planned by the 7th CPSU Congress, the South Yakut territorial industrial complex continues to develop. The Neryungi coal basin is the second largest in the USSR after only the Kuznetsk basin in the east of the country.

● THE VALLEY OF THE PRUT RIVER IN MOLDAVIA HAS BEEN DECLARED A PRESERVE. Swans, gray herons, European minks, ermines and others populate the 130 hectares of marshy land here. The establishment of the preserve is part of the republican comprehensive programme for a revival and protection of the flora and fauna in the republic. At present, Moldavia has 17 preserves.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

SOVIET UNION'S ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

The Soviet Union as a whole and its every Union republic have accumulated a tremendous economic potential. The national wealth in 1981 reached 2,900,000 million rubles (land, minerals and forests excluded)—a threefold growth over 1965. Fixed assets are now valued at 1,850,000 million rubles, its growth over 1965. The fixed assets double 600,000 million rubles in 1985. The fixed assets doubled every ten years. Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan doubled their fixed assets in eight years. Byelorussia, Moldavia, Tajikistan and Armenia needed nine years to achieve this. The growth of fixed assets and their improvement through restructuring have largely contributed to the development of socialism in these republics.

In the 60 years of Soviet power Soviet industry has increased its output by 500 times, or from one to 20 per cent in world figures.

Many republics show industrial performance hundreds of times higher than the whole USSR in 1922. Georgia alone in 1981 produced 20 times as much electricity as the whole country in 1922. Georgia is also responsible for one-third of Soviet electric locomotives and is the major producer of tea and citrus fruit. These and many other figures are cited in *POIITIKHESKOYE SANKTSIONIROVANIYE*.

HOW OLD IS MOSCOW?

An unusual opinion on this issue is put forward in *VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA* by Professor A. Prokhorov, who is Doctor of History.

Moscow is mentioned for the first time in the chronicles in 1147. This well-known and long-established fact provides the starting point for our capital's history.

However, the 18th-century "Guide to Moscow Antiquities and Places of Interest" by L. Maksimovich has the following entry:

According to many chronicles, Moscow was built by Oleg, tutor of Igor Wit, on his way to Kiev from

Novgorod, passed through those places where Moscow now stands and built a village on the Neglinnaya River, near the Moskva River. In 1147, the book goes on, the Great Russian Prince, Yuri Vladimirovich, came into possession of these places and resumed the building of the town on to be more accurate, built it again on the same spot.

As we see, writes A. Prokhorov, the guidebook gives historical backing for dating the appearance of Moscow and the well-known date finds yet additional corroboration here. At the same time, however, the author suggests that 882 might be quite feasible as a foundation date for our city. If this were true Moscow would be 1100 years old this year.

It is difficult to believe of course that Moscow appeared as early as this. But Oleg's 882 campaign is written about in the most ancient of Russian chronicles.

In this way, concludes the professor, the archaeological evidence testifying to the more ancient origin of our capital finds somewhat unexpected confirmation.

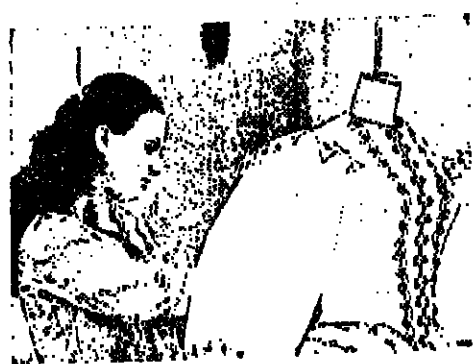
ECOLOGICAL PROGRAMME FOR DONBASS

Many papers discuss the problem of ecology in major cities in the Donetsk Region's administrative centre (in the Ukraine) and their solutions to these problems is the subject of an article in *SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA*.

A man must know beforehand or foresee the consequences of what is going to do and act so as to bring about a minimum impact—no damage at all in ideal case. This is the aim of the "Donbass" programme, devised in the Ukraine. The programme includes everything — things to be built, where grass lawns will be, etc. Neither does it neglect the problems of cars and trucks. In a word, this is a long-term complex programme.

A computer will immediately prompt where the situation has gone bad, and where trouble could be expected. The programme was compiled with the participation of more than 30 scientific establishments and enterprises from the Ukraine, Moscow, Kazakhstan, the Urals and Siberia.

A FIRST NIGHT IN PREPARATION



When the singer puts on costume it should inspire her to give a great performance. Every costume-maker is aware of this.

Photo by Georgi Strelchikov

Our correspondent took this left picture in the costume department of the Bolshoi Theatre before the first night of Sergei Prokofiev's "Betrothal in the Monastery".

Then came the first night reflected in our right photo showing Lyudmila Shemakova as Klara. The curtain fell and the applause subsided. But what was left was the feeling of satisfaction felt by all those involved in the production, including those working in the theatre workshop. The performance would not have been possible without the scenery, costumes and props.

The technical side of a performance is a complex process involving more than 500 workshop employees: costume and property makers, shoe-makers and joiners as well as people of 70 odd other trades.

The costume is one of the most important elements in a production. Between 200 and 500 of them are made for each production at the Bolshoi. Sets and costumes are unique to each production. Each director has his own approach to a work and it is his ideas that inspire the property and costume makers.

Natalya DAVYDOVA



A moment during the first night of Prokofiev's opera, "Betrothal in the Monastery", at the Bolshoi Theatre.

Photo by Georgi Solov'yov

OASES AT THE FOOT OF MOUNTAINS

A major canal dug in the north of the Issyk-Kul Region has brought to life a new oasis. As a result, the large grain farms in this region of the Kirghiz Republic have been provided with an additional five hundred hectares of previously arid land.

Dozens of such oases have appeared this year in the valleys and plateaus of the Tien Shan Area. Kirghiz irrigators have made a present of thirteen thousand hectares of irrigated land to agriculturalists. Operations to ensure next year's harvest are already underway and involve the Papan reservoir which is one of the largest in the republic, a large number of new stationary and mobile pumping stations and distribution canals. Water is also now provided from subterranean oases. It comes from deep newly drilled wells.

The rapid growth of the irrigation complexes in Kirghizia means that the monitoring system had to be brought up to date. The irrigators now have automatic machines, remote control installations and computers at their disposal. Mechanized irrigation has been introduced over one-tenth of the irrigated fields in the republic.

The taming of the sands

A 200-thousand-hectare tract of sandy land in the northern Black Sea coast area has been planted with young trees by Kherson farmers.

Attempts to stop the sand encroaching on fertile land were first made in the last century. But it is only today that tangible results have become possible. Agronomists have worked out methods for growing saplings in the loose sand and have introduced easily adaptable trees and shrubs into the area.

The Kherson experience of planting trees on sand dunes is being studied by experts in many countries as part of international courses for "Reinforcing Moving Sands".

Its implementation is monitored by the Council of the Donetsk Scientific Centre. The results are very much in evidence. The administrative centre of the Donetsk Region has become one of the most well looked after industrial cities in the world, although it has no more than 150 factories. The city has millions of people and as many trees. There are 160 square metres of green trees for every inhabitant, not counting the lawns.

THE STRONG PERSONALITY IN LIFE AND LITERATURE

The modern literary hero is the subject of a *LITERATURNAYA GAZETA* interview with USSR State Prize-Winner Rustan Ibragimov. The playwright and novelist Ibragimov also wrote the scripts for "The Interrogation" and "In Front of a Closed Door" and wrote many other things well known outside the Azerbaijan Republic.

An energetic personality is perhaps one capable of attracting many people and of leading them, of counterpoising his or her opinion to the customary norms. Please comment.

The ability to engage in bold action, said Ibragimov, to take things upon oneself is wonderful in some cases, though it can do irreparable damage in others. A "superdetermined" personality, may even destroy the whole world for today there are more than enough technological means to do this. In the past century progressive Russian critical thought dreamt of creating the hero for our literature. At the same time, notes the writer, a hero of quite a different kind appeared from the pens of 19th-century writers — he was weak, beset by doubts, seldom capable of decisive action, rarely reacting to insult or injury. This, I believe, is due to the fact that their genius foresaw a situation when an ill-judged action by one man could entail catastrophic consequences.

This is why, concluded the writer, though I value strongly independent and resolute personalities very highly, I understand how important it is for force to be aggressive, for independence not to be over-powering, for decisiveness not to be ill-considered.

Places to visit



The Polytechnical Museum is 110 years old

The Polytechnical Museum is 110 years old. To mark the anniversary the museum, the oldest science promotion establishment in our capital, has arranged new displays. The private collections lent by Muscovites are of particular interest: for instance, the clock mechanisms and mechanical music pieces from the collection of Sergei Obratsov, the director of the Puppet Theatre (upper left photo), the 18th-century red copper kettles belonging to V. Bezvin (upper right photo), and the collection of Bulgarian bells belonging to writer Vladimir Soloukhin. The latest scientific and technological achievements are on view in the museum's 80 rooms. One can

see a laser in action, holographic pictures, space capsules and many other things. Thousands of exhibits speak, move, calculate, take pictures and process sound and metal.

One-fifth of the items on display reflect the history of national and world science and technology: for instance, the collection of 200 microscopes of all centuries, starting with the 17th century; radio receivers, including one made by Popov; means of communication and automobiles.

Numerous consultants, specialists and guides are available to answer visitors' questions. About 1,100 thousand people visit the museum annually.

Cooperation between universities

The Patrice Lumumba Peoples' Friendship University, in Moscow, and the Eduardo Mondlane University, in Mozambique, have been maintaining close contacts now for over a number of years. A short while ago, Moscow was visited by a delegation of Mozambican professors, led by Dr. Joao Carlos Beltrao, Deputy Rector of the E. Mondlane University. They visited Friendship University, where they signed another working programme for cooperation. In 1983-85, the two universities will exchange teachers, post-graduate students, and trainees and also will map out themes for joint scientific research on problems of mutual scientific interest. Friendship University will help Mozambican students to study Russian. Under the programme, the E. Mondlane University will be provided with Soviet teachers and academic literature.

1983—YEAR OF THE BOAR

In some Asian countries, the years are counted on the basis of a 12-year cycle. Each year is considered as being "ruled" by

one of twelve animals which legend regards as God Symbols of the lunar calendar.

In Japan, for instance, the answer to the question how old someone is will most likely be answered by something like, "He was born in the year of the Dragon", or "in the year of the Tiger". 1983 is said to be the year of the Boar.

The present year will be a year of change. According to Japanese journalist Yumi Takada, there will be changes in women's fashions. The popular colours will be light and dark blue.

ILYA MECHNIKOV'S MEMORIAL ROOM

There is now an Ilya Mechnikov memorial room at the Rig Medical History Museum in Latvia.

It tells of the life and work of this outstanding Russian naturalist, founder of the Russian school of microbiology and originator of the theory of immunity, gerontology and of several other important areas of research. On display are some works published during Mechnikov's lifetime, his autographs, personal effects, laboratory tools, and family photos.

Also on view is Mechnikov's personal copy of his famous monograph, "Immunity to Infectious Disease", which won him a Nobel Prize in 1908.

OF INTEREST

The Chukchi settlements on the shores of the Arctic Ocean are often visited by the lords of the Arctic—white bears. Recently a 1.5-year-old bear-cub stayed for several days in the regional centre, the Shmidt Kiya settlement. At first he did not risk emerging from behind hummocks near the shore where he was spotted. But later, having appreciated the benevolence of

A bear in the doorway

adults and children who started leading him, he took heart and began roaming the streets of the settlement and even stayed for the night in a doorway of a multi-story house. Only the local dogs peered him, evidently he took offence and after a week's stay disappeared one windy night in the ice licks shoved by the wind to the shore.



On the eve of the New Year, one often and Father Frost hurrying on their urgent business through the streets of Moscow. 154 of them visited 25 thousand kids in the city bringing presents for small children. They were as festive parties and concerts and led merry round dances around huge Christmas trees put up in the squares of the city. Our correspondent took this picture of the Father Frost during some off-duty minutes.

Photo by Viktor Akhmedov

VIEWPOINT

ACCELERATION

Alexander GUBER

It is difficult of course to compare the present-day Soviet economy to what it was in 1922 when the Soviet Union was first formed. The impressive growth figures will say little to the reader abroad. The rest of the world too, he would say, has not been standing still. True, humanity has travelled a long path over the past 60 years.

But here is one noteworthy figure. In 1922 the Soviet Union's per capita industrial production was nine times less than the world average. Now we supersede the enormously increased average world figure by three and a half times.

In 1922 the USSR power stations produced less electricity than was produced by Cyprus, Bahrain or El Salvador. Last year, now the USSR takes second place in the world after the USA.

Such figures — and there are many more which could be cited — allow of only one conclusion: the USSR economic development over the past sixty years has been dynamic and stable. The Soviet Union's share in world industrial production has grown from one to 20 per cent as a result.

A similar situation is found in the social field. The Soviet Union is the first country to completely do away with unemployment. In the number of doctors and scientists and in the accessibility of all kinds of education, medical treatment and recreation it is without equal in the world. No country has such low rents and such cheap public transport.

It is indicative that the Soviet Central Asian republics which had no establishments of higher learning of their own 60 years ago, are now ahead of many developed capitalist countries in the relative numbers of their students.

The Soviet Union has many socio-economic achievements to its credit. But we consider there could be more of them. And the recent Party decisions and the 1983 plan approved by the Supreme Soviet are geared to this end. Setting the national economy on a path of more intensive and efficient production is a condition vital to the implementation of the Plan.

Why are we not satisfied with our present rates of growth—we have, after all doubled industrial production in 10 years and doubled real per capita incomes in 15 years?

The thing is that until recently expenditure rose faster than end results. This naturally restricted the state's ability to solve social problems. Partial rationalization (labour productivity grows, while return on investment goes down and the cost of a unit of national income goes up) is no longer sufficient at the present stage. So all the latest Party and state decisions on economic matters must necessarily shift to solving more efficient utilization of all kinds of resources, i.e. comprehensive and systematic rationalization. Rationalization measures are being taken towards this end in the most comprehensive way in the improvement of economic management.

During the campaign when the leaders of the national economy were obliged to achieve higher productivity, this factor alone provided for 95 per cent of national income growth in 1983.

Against the native growth of the national income will be charged to consumption next year. So the attainment of the plan will mean a considerable improvement in living standards.

PROFILES

GEORGI POLONSKY



It all began with verse. As a nine-year-old, Georgi wrote a composition about Mayakovsky ending it with his own verse, with which he won a contest at Moscow University. Then, quite by chance, he met producer Julian Bykov, who introduced him to the Students' Theatre at the university. Another chance occurrence helped him on his way — the theatre urgently needed a play to stage and, since nothing suitable was found, Polonsky had to write it himself. Thus, twenty years ago, Georgi, who was a student at a teacher's training college, became the author of the dramatic poem, "I Have But One Heart" which was staged by Sergei Yutkevich. Polonsky hadn't given up writing poetry — there

was plenty of verse in the play. His poetry was included in other plays, and the poetic element in general became a stylistic forte in his dramas whose last characters often addressed the audience in verse.

Having graduated from the Moscow school, Polonsky spent several years teaching English at a Moscow school.

It was then that Yuri Zavadsky produced Polonsky's chronicle, "Two Evenings in May" at the Moscow Theatre.

Although I was a teacher, I was always seriously tempted to start learning how to write plays in earnest, Polonsky recalls. He enrolled for a course at the workshop run by Iosif Oshansk, his graduation scenario was the movie, "Let's Live Till Monday", which was filmed by Stanislav Rostotsky. The film has had a long life and has been tremendously successful — it received the Gold Prize at the Fourth Moscow International Film Festival.

This is a film about a school, its teachers, and schoolchildren, and about who has a right to teach and why. The next tribute Polonsky paid to the school theme was a series of scripts for films "Translated from English" and "A Key Not to Be Passed On" jointly with Natalia Dolina. He also wrote the plays "An Escape from Lybia" and "Drama Because of Lybia".

When I gave up teaching at school, I discovered that I could still play a useful part in education by writing film scripts and plays, says Polonsky. My truer vocation, I made friends with wonderful teachers and I often addressed audiences at schools. I was "hired out" by the school theme which seemed inexhaustible.

But to me the problem of teenagers never existed in isolation from the problem of grown-ups, the two always being mutually linked. This distracted me from the school theme to other subjects. It is true, that even in these other works of mine, the poetry of pedagogics remained a living and topical issue, except that it was now the grown-ups who were in the limelight. For instance, my play, "The Grammar", staged by the Moscow Art Theatre. Then I went in for something strange — fairy tales.

I wrote a play, "No One Will Believe It", based on a tale by the Swede Jan Erikson. In it, a fox-cub makes heroic efforts to get rid of the habits which nature has endowed him with and he makes friends with a chicken. I call the play a "zoological drama" because the characters are a fox, a hen, a dog, an owl, and a hedgehog. In Polonsky's tales, the characters are not only animals but also people. The action takes place in a non-existent country ruled by a fascist military dictatorship.

Polonsky has travelled a long road from realism to fables. Whatever he tackles as a playwright in the theatre or in the cinema, the motive force of his art is the desire to break down the barriers which separate people and, in so far as is possible, to expand the "volume of the human soul" so that men can sympathize with each other at the same time as remaining themselves.

Maxim ZEMNOV

Photo by the author

FACTS AND EVENTS

Exhibitions. A show entitled "12th-20th-Century Masterpieces of Norwegian Decorative and Applied Art" has opened at the Hermitage, in Leningrad. The 150 items on view are drawn from three museum complexes

In Oslo. This is the first exhibition of its kind to have been held in the Soviet Union. Articles of wooden decorative art, household utensils and furniture are on show.

Cinemas. Over 20 feature films and documentaries made in various years were shown at the Tashkent Cinema House during the GDR Cinema Days. A similar

show of Uzbek films was held last year in the GDR.

Muscle. The Maly Opera and Ballet Theatre in Leningrad recently premiered a dramatized version of Georgi Sviridov's "The Pathetic Oratorio" and the "1905" ballet to the music of Dmitry Shostakovich's 11th Symphony. Choreography was by Igor Baksky.

Art from Georgia in Moscow



An illustration to the Georgian epic "The Tale of the Dragon".

An illustration to the Georgian epic "The Tale of the Dragon".

To coincide with the first performance of the play "The Law of Hospitality" by Georgian writer Nodar Dumbadze at the Pushkin Theatre, a show of works by Georgian artist Iosif Sazonadze has been brought to Moscow. One of them, dedicated to Pushkin, was presented by the

artist to the theatre. Questioned about his interest in Pushkin, Sazonadze answered: "Pushkin was obsessed with Georgia. A precious indication of his sentiment was his verse about 'our people have for this great Russian poet'.

The show features a series of illustrations to literary works by Shota Rustaveli, the outstanding medieval Georgian philosopher and poet, and to the tales of the mythical hero Amirani who gifted fire to people after he had stolen it from the gods.

Georgiella REZINSKAYA

BOOKS FROM CUBA

Cuba's national holiday — Liberation Day — is being marked by a ten-day exhibition of Cuban books at the Library for Foreign Languages in Moscow. The library has mounted an exhibition of books and illustrations — "Modern Cuban Poetry and Prose" — featuring publications of the past few years.

In this country Cuban fiction is published in 17 languages.

'THE GADFLY' AS A BALLET

The "Russian Winter" Arts Festival in Moscow is abundant in first-night performances. One of these took place at the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre which staged "Riviera", a new ballet by Sukhan Taisadze.

Sukhan Taisadze is a modern Georgian composer who has written a number of symphonies and a great deal of chamber music. Particularly popular are his quartets. The composer's artistic career has been punctuated by pieces of musical choreography. "Riviera" is, in fact, his fifth ballet.

The story of the ballet is based on the novel by the English writer Ethel Lilian Voynich, "The Gadfly", which is highly popular in this country, especially among young

people. The action takes place in Italy, in the 30s of the past century, when the Italian people fought to shake off the domination of Austria.

In the centre of the story are the closely intertwined lives of three main characters — the young student Arthur who later became Riviera, a rebel leader; Gemma — the girl whom he loved and from whom he was parted for 16 years by force of tragic circumstances; and Cardinal Montanelli, a man who first sacrificed the woman he loved and then his only son to his clerical career.

The leading dancers of the Musical Theatre — Margarita Drozdova, Vadim Tedyev, Galina Kravtchenko and Mikhail Kravtchenko — starred in the ballet.

Igor KAZENIN



A scene from the ballet.

Photo by Andrii Stepanov

WHAT'S ON!

January 1-3

THEATRES

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin). January 1 — Double-bill: Stravinsky, "Petruška"; "The Firebird" (ballets). 2 — Verdi, "Il Trovatore" (opera).

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). January 1 (mat) — Bargomyzhsky, "The Stone Guest" (opera); 1 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera). 2 (mat) — Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera); 2 (eve) — Prokofiev, "Romeo and Juliet" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). January 1 (mat), 3 (mat) — Motzart, "Don Giovanni" (ballet). January 2 (mat) — Prokofiev, "The Love of Three Oranges" (opera); 2 (eve) — Double-bill: Schubert, "Evening Dances"; McLaughlin, "Boomerang" (ballets). 3 (eve) — Rimsky-Korsakov, "May Night" (opera).

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FILMS

Border Guards (Cuba). About the events which took place in Cuba in 1960.

Cinema: "Metropol" (1 Part). Metro Ploshchad Sverdlova.

Appointment (Dovzhenko Studio, USSR).

The fate of a young girl, our contemporary, is in focus.

Cinema: "Vetracha" (5/6 Sverdlovskaya St.). Metro Ploshchad Sverdlova.

"Donkey's Skin". Leningrad Studio.

A musical comedy based on the tale by Charles Perrault. In a poverty-stricken kingdom great troubles are foretold for the King's daughter in the years to come. The prophecy, made by an

old woman, is fulfilled.

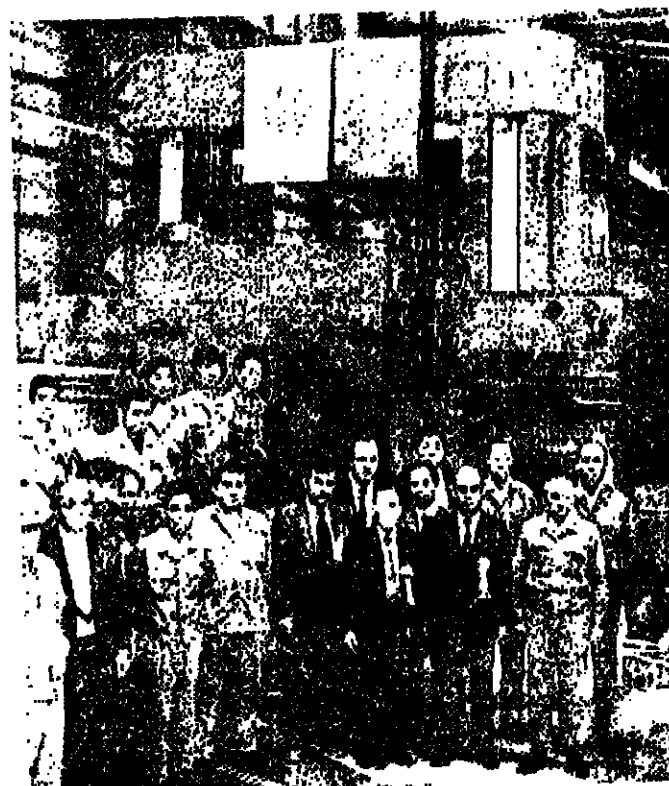
BUSINESS

SOVIET AID TO INDIA

Since gaining independence India has built up its own power engineering, and Indian plants are now major suppliers of turbines, generators, transformers and of other such machines and equipment. A lot of credit for these achievements goes to the Soviet Union. Today India is concentrating on building super-power thermal stations. The USSR is cooperating on just one of them, the 3,000,000 kW Vindhya station, with its first section rated at 1,200,000 kW. The Leningrad Giproshakh Institute is working out ways to develop the large Nigahi coal quarry using the latest strip mining technology. This power giant now under construction on the

border of the Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh states is a major Soviet-Indian cooperation project of the 80s.

The construction of this powerful station and the open case mines, due to supply coal for it, is a difficult task for both Soviet and Indian specialists, says economic adviser to the USSR embassy in India, N. Rodionov, but no one doubts we will solve it successfully and on time. The almost 30 years that our economic cooperation has lasted and the experience of Bhilai, Hardwar, Neyveli and other big projects are a great boost to our confidence. Ultimate success rests on the friendship, complete understanding and professional maturity of the Soviet and Indian specialists, he stressed.



A 6620 plane-milling machine for working parts of up to 50 tonnes has been installed at a factory of the Detskiy Krasnoku Arm. The machine has been bought from Soviet Stankimport by the Progress Trading company.

BIG JAPANESE DELEGATION SOON TO COME

S. Nagano, President of Japan's Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is quoted by the "Nihon Keizai" newspaper as saying that at a recent Japanese-Soviet business cooperation committee meeting the decision was taken to send to the USSR a delegation of about 150 businessmen, including presidents and chairmen of companies and corporations. The delegation, the most representative since the last war, is to discuss new opportunities for trade between these two countries, which now stands at 6,000 million rubles a year.

SOVIET-POLISH TRADE TO EXPAND

A 1983 trade and payments protocol signed in Moscow envisages a 0.700 million tonne trade turnover next year, a 8.5 per cent increase on this year's figure. Traditional items will figure high on the trading list. As before, Soviet imports will go a long way towards supplying Poland's needs in fuel and raw materials.

The Soviet Union, eager to give economic aid and support to Poland, has offered it credits to balance out imbalances in mutual deliveries.

An agreement has also been signed on extra mutual shipments in 1983 of a range of goods to help Poland's light industry plants operate at capacity.

Contacts and contracts

© The Rekord factory in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, which was built and equipped with Soviet assistance, has made for the USSR the 100-thousandth fork-lifter. The factory produces 20 thousand such machines a year.

TROLLEYBUSES FOR ATHENS

The Greek capital will soon have 132 Soviet-made trolleybuses running in the city. The will increase the number of buses at Athens depot by 1.5 times and markedly improve transportation between the city centre and several of the outskirts.

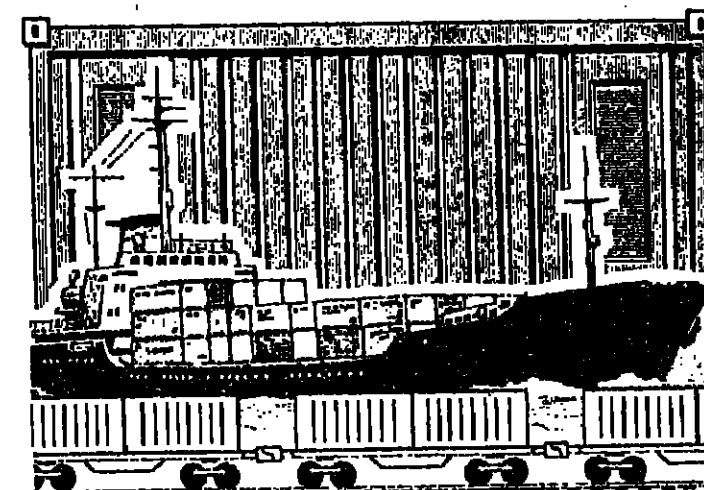
The first hundred Soviet-made trolleybuses started to operate in Athens several years ago.

Philately

CONQUERORS OF EVEREST COMMEMORATED

A new commemorative stamp block has been issued devoted to the Soviet climbers who got to the top of Mount Everest this year by following a route along the southwest of the south-west wall which before had been considered inaccessible. The price of the block is 50 kopeks.

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SERVICING STATIONS FOR VIETNAM

A new car servicing station built in Hanoi with Soviet assistance can handle 20 Soviet-made cars per day. The station will chiefly cater for the Hanoi bus depot.

This is the 54th such station to have been built in the country; there are plans to construct a hundred altogether.

Intourist news

Travels in Georgia

Next year marks the 200th anniversary of the Georgian treaty which formalized Georgia's voluntary unification with Russia. To mark the occasion Intourist has mounted a special tour, "Together forever" for foreign visitors, incorporating Moscow, Ordzhonikidze, Kazbegi, Pashavani, Tbilisi, and Telavi on its itinerary.

The trip will start off with a tour of Moscow sights telling of the history of Russian-Georgian friendship: Bolshaya and Malaya Gruzinskaya streets, the All Saints and the Strelensky cathedral, the Danakil Monastery, etc. Visitors will see the Moscow Kremlin, the Russian Georgian Friendship Museum, and will attend a round table discussion, "The USSR: the nation and its people".

The second stopover is in Ordzhonikidze, capital of the North Ossetian Autonomous Republic, one of the major industrial and cultural centres in the Northern Caucasus. An hour's ride from Ordzhonikidze is the village of Kazbegi with its unique 16th century Tsminda Sameba church plus cupola. On the way there visitors will see a memorial complex to those who fell during the Battle of the Caucasus as well as monuments to Griboyedov and Chavchavadze, the illustrious men of letters and noted public figures of Russia and Georgia.

An exciting and extensive programme awaits tourists in Tbilisi, capital of the Georgian Republic. It includes visits to the Museum of the People's Friendship, the Georgian Art Museum and to the Museum of Folk Architecture and Everyday Life, as well as get-togethers with the inhabitants of the city.

On the way to Telavi tourists will visit the house-museum of 19th-century Georgian poet and public figure, A. Chavchavadze, in the village of Telavi. The estate is surrounded by a beautiful English-style park, boasting over a thousand trees and shrubs from all parts of the world. Another attraction at the village is an old wine factory where visitors can taste the celebrated Telavidal dry wine.

Arguably the most exciting sight on the tour is the picturesque village of Gudauri, which has long been linked with Georgia.

Valia BOGOMOL